

Conservation Connection

January 19, 2010

Mark your calendars! The Mid-Pacific Region is currently soliciting proposals for the Fiscal Year 2010 Water Conservation Field Services Grant Program (WCFSP). The WCFSP is implemented annually under the provisions of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act and the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982. January 19, 2010 is the due date for the Fiscal Year 2010 WCFSP proposals.

Created in 1997, the WCFSP is designed to encourage water conservation and improve water management planning on a regional and statewide basis through financial and technical assistance. It is an incentive-based program that provides technical and financial assistance for locally driven water conservation activities through partnerships with water suppliers and other Federal, State, and local entities.

This year's Funding Opportunity Announcement will support the following:

1 – Water Management Planning - Help Federal water purveyors develop written water management and conservation plans under current criteria for evaluating water conservation plans required by the Central Valley Project Improvement Act of 1992.

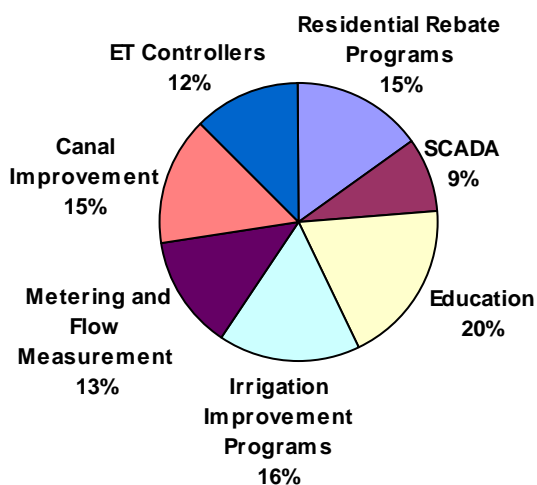
2 – Implementation of Efficiency Measures- Implement more efficient water management/conservation measures as described in the water management plan (i.e., automation of facilities, measurement, canal lining/piping, regulating reservoirs, ET Controllers, efficient residential appliances, etc.).

The WCFSP provides cost sharing to Reclamation's contractors and entities that have a defined relationship with one or more Reclamation Water Projects for water conservation activities. Applicants must cost share a minimum of 50% of total project costs. Reclamation's share of the costs shall generally not exceed \$50,000.

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Awarded projects from 2005-2009



In the past 5 years, Reclamation has awarded \$3,772,551 with a cost share from recipients of \$6,471,483, which totals \$10.2 million invested in water conservation. Examples of successful projects include canal lining and piping, irrigation system evaluations, tailwater recovery systems, SCADA, and residential rebate programs.

A copy of the full Funding Opportunity Announcement # R10AF20006 is available at www.grants.gov or on our WaterShare website at www.usbr.gov/mp/watershare/. For additional information, you may contact Ms. Sheri Looper at slooper@usbr.gov.



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Water Conservation Assistance at the 2010 Water Users Conference

Join us to learn about the new Best Management Practices Annual Update reporting website, the new Water Conservation Initiative Challenge Grants, and much more! Dr. Stuart Styles of the Irrigation Training and Research Center will also be available.

Water Conservation Team and Technical Assistance Room

Reclamation will be providing two training sessions for all Districts interested in the new Annual Update Reporting website for the Ag Water Management Council. Brandon Souza will be leading the presentations and Reclamation staff will be available for guidance on Annual Update Compliance.

**We are currently accepting requests for individual meetings on
January 27th & 28th, from
9 am – 12 noon and 1 pm - 5 pm.**

Financial Application Information

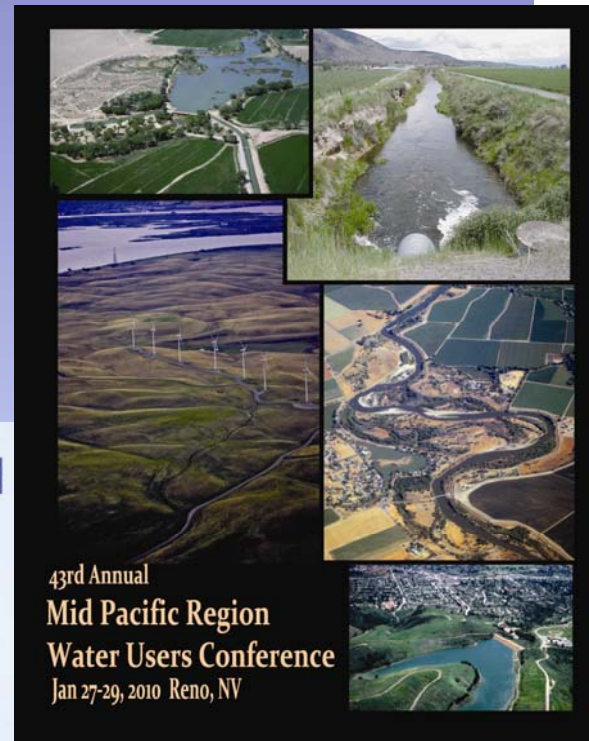
- Water Conservation Field Services Program
- CALFED Water Use Efficiency Grant Program
- Water for America Challenge Grant Program: Expand, Protect, and Conserve our Nation's Water Resources
- Grants.gov

Planning Assistance

- 2008 Standard Criteria and Guidebooks will be available
- Water Management Plans
- Pursuant to water service and settlement contract terms, Contractors are required to submit revised plans every five years. Contractors must also file annual updates every year to report implementation actions taken.

Please contact the following Water Conservation Specialists for appointments:
Northern California, Jake Berens, 530-934-1359, jberens@usbr.gov
South Central California, Dave Woolley, 559-487-5049, dwoolley@mp.usbr.gov
Regional Office, Laurie Sharp, 916-978-5232, lsharp@usbr.gov

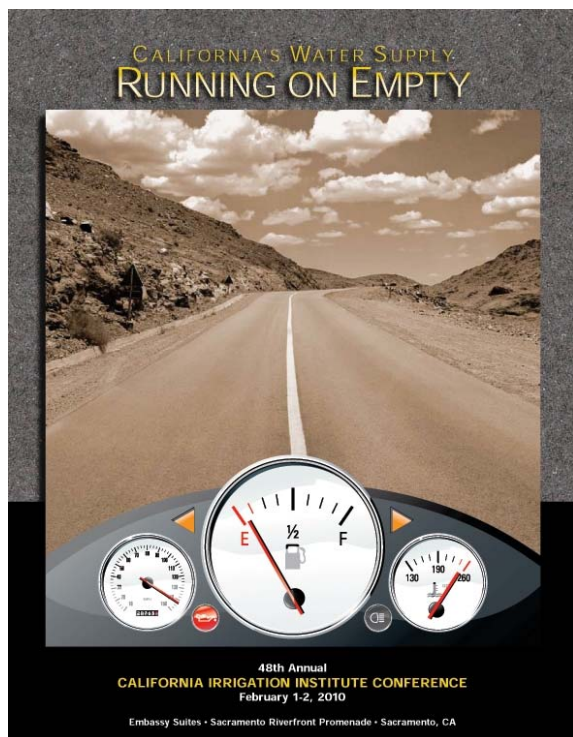
We look forward to seeing you there!



43rd Annual
**Mid Pacific Region
Water Users Conference**
Jan 27-29, 2010 Reno, NV



The California Irrigation Institute Presents “California’s Water supply: Running on Empty Thinking Outside of the Tank”





The California Irrigation Institute (CII), the state’s oldest independent forum on irrigation water, is hosting its 48th annual conference, “California’s Water Supply: Running on Empty” on February 1-2, 2010. This year’s conference is being held in Sacramento, California at the Embassy Suites, Sacramento Riverfront Promenade.

The 48th annual conference will provide a unique opportunity for agricultural and urban water users to discuss the California water supply crisis, irrigation, and creative solutions for dealing with a changing water supply. **Don Glaser**, Regional Director of the Mid-Pacific region of Reclamation, will commence the activities as the keynote speaker, followed by a wide array of dynamic speakers including federal and state officials, water district personnel, university extension representatives, private consultants, engineers, and farmers. The opening panel promises to be exciting with discussions between **Roger Patterson** of Metropolitan Water District, **John Penn Carter** (Special Counsel to Imperial Water District), **Dr. Charles Burt** of the Cal Poly’s Irrigation Training and Research Center, **Dr. Peter Gleick** of the Pacific Institute, and **John Harris** of Harris Farms. Special guest, **Dr. Eduardo Blumwald**, University of California, Davis, will present a luncheon talk titled “Engineering Crop Plants with Enhanced Drought Tolerance and Improved


Water Use Efficiency.” Other highlights include an exhibitor’s wine and food reception on February 1st and a tour of the State Water Project and Central Valley Project joint facilities on February 2nd. For those coming into town on Sunday, January 31st, there is a no-host dinner at the historic Delta King Riverboat.

Anyone interested in California water supply and irrigation is invited to attend. Please visit www.caii.org for more information. A complete program is posted on CII’s website.

Specialized Training Courses and Workshops

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|  | <h3>Canal Operations Workshop</h3> <p>Cal Poly ITRC and CSU Chico Agricultural Teaching and Research Center (ATRC) have arranged a one-day irrigation district workshop, presented by Dr. Stuart Styles. <i>January 26, 2010, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Chico State Farm</i></p> |  |
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|  <p>ITRC <i>moving water in new directions</i> The Irrigation Training and Research Center at Cal Poly has their 2010 class calendar available. Visit their website at www.itrc.org for more information.</p> |
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|  | <p>A schedule of classes is now available. Visit http://www.csuchico.edu/ag/water/workshops.shtml for more information.</p> |
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Address Correction Requested

